



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

OFFICE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
MANAGEMENT



## EM Program Updates | Aug. 18, 2011

### Final Hanford Offsite Waste Shipment Leaves Idaho Treatment Facility

**IDAHO FALLS, Idaho** – The Advanced Mixed Waste Treatment Project (AMWTP) recently completed the last of 25 shipments of waste bound for permanent disposal in New Mexico and Nevada, six months ahead of a regulatory deadline.

It took 77 shipments to bring the 923, 85-gallon drums of waste from the Hanford Site in Washington to AMWTP. After characterization and compaction operations, the waste left AMWTP in 25 shipments to permanent disposal locations. The transuranic (TRU) waste was shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) in New Mexico, and two, 100-gallon drums of mixed low-level waste were shipped to the Nevada National Security Site.

TRU waste consists of materials contaminated with radioactive elements that have atomic numbers greater than uranium, including tools, rags, protective clothing, sludge and soil. The waste is disposed safely in rooms mined out of an ancient salt formation more than 2,100 feet below the surface at WIPP.

Nearly every AMWTP department played a role in the safe and compliant shipment of the Hanford offsite waste and this accomplishment could only have been successfully achieved through the combined teamwork of all these Office of Environmental Management field offices.



Idaho State Patrol Troopers Rick Stouse and Tony Anderson inspected the TRUPACTS, containers which contain TRU waste, and trailer containing the final shipment of Hanford offsite waste. The Idaho State Patrol officers have played an important role in AMWTP's success by inspecting every one of AMWTP's nearly 3,900 shipments.

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